

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SIL-01 PC-10 DODE-00 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20 CCO-00

FBO-01 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NIC-01 NSC-10 SPC-03 OC-06

OPR-02 PA-04 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-20

SY-10 NEA-11 SCS-03 /208 W
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O P 281900Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6634

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT GJ

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER BARROW'S CURRENT VIEWS ON GRENADA SITUATION

REFS: BRIDGETOWN 0151, 0154

1. AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING WITH PRIMIN THIS MORNING ON
OTHER SUBJECTS (SEPTTEL) AMB. NOTED CONTACT BETWEEN OFFICIALS
OF CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES (CCC) AND CARICOM
LEADERS DURING THEIR WEEKEND MEETING (BRIDGETOWN 0154),
ALTHOUGH GRENADA SITUATION NOT ON THEIR AGENDA. AMB. NOTED
THAT NO FOREIGNERS SEEMED TO BE IN PHYSICAL DANGER SO FAR,
AND ASKED WHETHER, IN PM'S VIEW, INDEPENDENCE WOULD COME
OFF SUCCESSFULLY AND WHETHER THERE WERE ANY CHANCE THAT
CARICOM LEADERS WOULD SPONSOR NEGOTIATIONS SUGGESTED BY CCC
SINCE GRENADA SITUATION AFFECTED IMAGE OTHER CARICOM COUNTRIES.

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2. PM SEEMED SOMEWHAT RELUCTANT TO TALK ABOUT SUBJECT AT ALL, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT LEADERS HAD TALKED TO CCC REPRESENTATIVES AND FURTHER ADDED THAT CARICOM LEADERS, INCLUDING HIMSELF, DID NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY USEFUL PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY SUCH AN EFFORT AT THIS STAGE. SITUATION HAS PROGRESSED TOO FAR AND EVENTS WILL NOW SIMPLY HAVE TO PLAY THEMSELVES OUT. BARROW REFERRED TO DEEP DIVISIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND ANTI-GOVERNMENT FACTIONS, DIVISION OF SUCH DEGREE THAT PERSONS INVOLVED UNLIKELY NOW TO SIT DOWN QUIETLY TOGETHER. HE SAID THAT THE BASIS FOR THIS WAS THAT NOBODY TRUSTED GAIRY'S PROMISES, ESPECIALLY ABOUT HIS SECRET POLICE. HE SAID THAT A REASONABLE SOLUTION MIGHT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE EARLIER, BUT EVERYTHING NOW CAUGHT UP IN THE RUSH OF EVENTS. (CCC GENERAL SECRETARY DR ROY NEEHALL POINTED OUT IN PRESS THIS A.M. THAT GAIRY AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT A CCC RECONCILIATION TEAM (BRIDGE-TOWN 151) AND THE WILLINGNESS OF HEADS OF CHURCH MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE 22 TO HAVE DIALOGUE WITH GAIRY, BOTH OCCURRED BEFORE DISTURBANCES OF 21ST AND 22ND JAN. AND HE NOT IN POSITION TO SAY HOW THEY FELT NOW.)

3. BARROW DID NOT DIRECTLY ANSWER MY QUERY ABOUT WHETHER HE THOUGHT INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS WOULD COME OFF SUCCESSFULLY, BUT WHEN I AGAIN MENTIONED THE QUESTION OF SAFETY OF PARTICIPANTS, HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEMS WILL REALLY COME AFTER INDEPENDENCE IS OVER. HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT NO FOREIGNERS WERE LIKELY TO BE ENDANGERED "DELIBERATELY."
DONOVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PRIME MINISTER, PROTECTIVE SECURITY, CIVIL DISORDERS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRIDGE00157
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740113/aaaaalgi.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BRIDGETOWN 0151, 0154
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <27 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER BARROW'S CURRENT VIEWS ON GRENADA SITUATION
TAGS: PINS, PINT, GJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005